

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 362
By Cochran

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Eulas Sargent of Carter County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Eulas Sargent; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eulas Sargent was an exemplary public servant and consummate law enforcement professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity as a longtime employee of Carter County Sheriff's Department and held the prestigious and commendable honor of being the oldest active law enforcement officer in the State at the age of eighty-eight; he had earned the respect of his peers, his superiors and the public alike for the exemplary quality of his work and his dedication to duty; and

WHEREAS, growing up on Stoney Creek as one of seven children of the late John and Eva Sargent, Mr. Sargent, or "Sarge" as he was fondly called by those who knew him, began working at the Carter County Sheriff's Department in March of 1971; and

WHEREAS, spending most of his life in a uniform, Mr. Sargent always served his country and community with bravery and valor through his noble career choices. He was a soldier for thirty years and then worked with the Sheriff's Department for thirty-four years; in his last assignment with the Sheriff's Department, he served as the bailiff for Carter County General Sessions Court; and

WHEREAS, this brave man joined the United States Army at approximately eighteen years old before returning home in 1940 to work at the rayon plant. He re-enlisted during World War II and he spent a total of thirty years with the U.S. Army, serving in World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam Conflict; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sargent saw combat during World War II as a participant in the Normandy invasion; he served his entire military tenure with the Third Army under the command of General John J. Pershing. All in all, he was a courageous Tennessean who served with distinction in World War II as one of those great Americans who earned the rightful designation of the "greatest generation"; and

WHEREAS, after moving his family back to Elizabethton, Tennessee, in 1965, he returned to Korea to serve in the U.S. Army for another year. This valiant man retired from the military in 1968 and then continued his public service career when he went to work for the Carter County Sheriff's Department in 1971; and

WHEREAS, he worked for five different Carter County sheriffs, and during his lifetime, he also lent his time and energies to such noteworthy organizations as the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Moose Club, the Elks Club, and for a number of years, he served in the Shrine Band; and

WHEREAS, Eulas Sargent was deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Sargent enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Jessie, before her passing in 1995 and was the proud father of six children, one of whom, Eulas Sargent, Jr., preceded him in death in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Eulas Sargent leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mr. Eulas Sargent, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, both as a law enforcement officer and as a human being.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Eulas Sargent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.